



# HERKIMER

## CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROPOSED BUDGET <b>\$28,502,714</b>	
SPENDING CHANGE <b>\$2,088,714</b> (7.91%) 	TAX LEVY CHANGE  <b>\$0</b>

### BUDGET NEWSLETTER 2022

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**VOTE**  
May 17, 2022 - noon-8 p.m.  
Herkimer Jr./Sr.  
High School Library

## Proposed 2022-23 budget includes NO tax increase

### Budget Priorities

The **budget carries a 0% tax increase** while maintaining programs and services for students, and includes the following:

#### ELEMENTARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Implementation of clubs
- Instrument lessons for grades 3-5
- Swim instruction for grade 2
- Reinstate Academic Intervention Services
- Implement tech class/instruction

#### JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- Reinstatement of science and physical education teachers and a 0.5 shared language teacher
- Maintains social-emotional support services
- Sustain enrichment opportunities & academic support services at the middle school
- Sustain and develop elective opportunities in the high school

### Budget Numbers

#### REVENUE

- Overall state aid increase of \$2.2 million
- Proposed tax levy of 0 percent increase is below the state calculated limit of 1.62 percent
- Proposal uses \$230,000 from fund balance and \$261,176 from ERS/TRS reserves
- Local taxes would make up about 33% of revenue

#### SPENDING

- Increased BOCES expenses and costs for staff salaries and benefits

On Tuesday, May 17, Herkimer Central School District residents will vote on a \$28,502,714 proposed budget for the 2022-23 school year. For the second consecutive year, the budget will result in a 0 percent tax increase.

While spending will increase 7.91 percent due to increased staff salary and benefit costs and BOCES program increases, the use of fund balance, employee and teacher retirement system reserve funds, and a strong state aid package has enabled the Board of Education to propose a budget that allows the district to keep and improve on present programs and services without the need for additional tax revenue.

Voters will also elect three representatives to the Board of Education, vote on a capital reserve fund proposition, and will vote on the public library budget and library board of trustees.

“I’d like to give credit to the Governor and the Legislature for giving us a strong aid package,” said Interim Superintendent Gary Tutty. “We are often quick to complain when our aid is not adequate to meet our expanding needs. Yet, in this case, our government officials have responded to not only the normal challenges our district has to face, but to the added pressures put upon schools during the pandemic.”

Tutty also credited the leadership of the BOE and staff during the budget development process.

“These past few years have been incredibly difficult, but through the leadership of the Board of Education and a dedicated staff, this budget is just another example of the balance the district has been able to achieve between meeting the needs of our students and meeting their responsibility to our taxpayers,” he added.

#### Maintaining/Restoring Programs

The proposed budget contains funding for a \$100,000 capital outlay project



*Left: Elementary students work on an engineering project in the library. Right: A student in the Drones 2 class at Herkimer Jr./Sr. flies a drone in the hallway. Students in the class are working towards becoming certified drone pilots.*

that includes network infrastructure and access control improvements at the elementary school. It also preserves existing instructional and extra-curricular programs and includes restorations to programs at both the elementary and Jr./Sr. High School.

At the elementary school, the proposal includes the reinstatement of Academic Intervention Services (AIS) and the implementation of new student clubs, instrument lessons in grades 3-5, swim instruction for grade 2, and additional technology instruction.

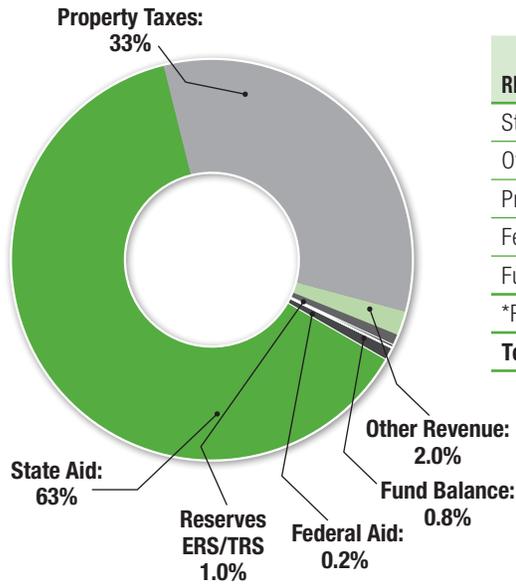
At the Jr./Sr. High School, the proposed budget includes the restoration of a physical education teacher, science teacher, and a shared language teacher.

It also maintains social-emotional support services, sustains enrichment opportunities and academic support services at the middle school, and sustains and develops elective opportunities.

District leaders have also set a goal to promote and reinstate various sports teams such as boys tennis, golf, and volleyball, and modified field hockey and girls tennis.

# Projected Revenues

The district's plan for how it will obtain every dollar in the proposed budget



REVENUES	2021-22 BUDGETED	2022-23 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23	% CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23
State Aid	\$15,741,000	\$17,959,038	\$2,218,038	14.09%
Other Revenue	\$597,000	\$546,500	-\$50,500	-8.46%
Property Taxes	\$9,451,000	\$9,451,000	0	0%
Federal	\$55,000	\$55,000	0	0%
Fund Balance	\$570,000	\$230,000	-\$340,000	-59.65%
*Reserves ERS/TRS		\$261,176	-	-
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$26,414,000</b>	<b>\$28,502,714</b>	<b>\$2,088,714</b>	<b>7.91%</b>

\* The district has ERS and TRS reserve funds which could be used to offset expenditures to revenues

## Budget Q&A

### What am I voting on?

On May 17, Herkimer Central School District voters will decide on the district's \$28,502,714 proposed budget for the 2022-23 school year. Residents will also vote whether to authorize the creation of a capital reserve fund in an amount not to exceed \$5 million, elect three Board of Education members, and will vote on the public library budget and library board of trustees.

### How come the budget is increasing?

The main growth in the budget can be attributed to employee salary and benefit increases, and BOCES expenses.

### What is included in the proposed budget?

In addition to maintaining existing programs and services, the proposed budget includes additions to both the elementary and Jr./Sr. High School. At the elementary school, the proposal includes the reinstatement of Academic Intervention Services and the implementation of new student clubs, instrument lessons in grades 3-5, swim instruction for grade 2, and additional technology instruction. At the Jr./Sr. High School, the proposal includes the reinstatement of science and physical education teachers and a 0.5 FTE shared language teacher.

### What happens if the budget is voted down?

If the proposed budget is defeated on May 17, the BOE can put the same or a revised budget up for a vote in June, or it can immediately adopt a contingent budget. After two unsuccessful budget votes, Herkimer would have to adopt a contingent budget. Under New York's tax levy limit law, a contingent budget must carry a 0 percent tax levy increase. Contingency rules prohibit the district from spending money in certain areas, including the community's use of school facilities (unless the costs are reimbursed), field trips, new equipment (not related to the health and safety of students), non-essential maintenance, certain student supplies, and small building improvement projects.

### Senator visits Jr./Sr. High School; presents resolution proclaiming March as "Youth Art Month"

State Senator Peter Oberacker visited the Jr./Sr. High School in March to visit classrooms, and present a Senate resolution to art teacher Heather McCutcheon proclaiming March as Youth Art Month in NYS.



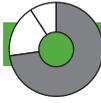
He was treated to a performance by the jazz band and visited multiple classrooms where he answered questions from students.

He spent time in both the art and agriculture classrooms, shared his support for the programs, and talked with students.

"Our legislative body recognizes the importance of art in education as being necessary for the full development of all children, challenging the intellect, while teaching lessons about order, proportion, and genius," he said.

# Proposed Expenditures

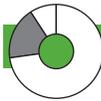
The district's plan for how money will be spent within the proposed budget



## Program \$21,040,886 | 74%

Includes expenses for curriculum development, instructional programs, supplies, district transportation, athletic programs, community service, most employee benefits and transfers of funds.

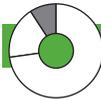
EXPENDITURES	2021-22 BUDGETED	2022-23 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23	% CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$19,462,000</b>	<b>\$21,040,886</b>	<b>\$1,578,886</b>	<b>8.1%</b>



## Capital \$4,908,959 | 17%

Includes most expenses for plant operations, all maintenance, debt service principal and interest on all building projects.

EXPENDITURES	2021-22 BUDGETED	2022-23 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23	% CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$4,528,000</b>	<b>\$4,908,959</b>	<b>\$380,959</b>	<b>8.4%</b>



## Administrative \$2,552,869 | 9%

Includes expenses for board of education, central administration, finance and legal services, personnel, public information, some plant operations, central services, special items, supervision of regular school and some employee benefits.

EXPENDITURES	2021-22 BUDGETED	2022-23 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23	% CHANGE '21-'22 TO '22-'23
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$2,424,000</b>	<b>\$2,552,869</b>	<b>\$128,869</b>	<b>5.3%</b>

	2021-22 BUDGETED	2022-23 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$26,414,000</b>	<b>\$28,502,714</b>	<b>\$2,088,714</b>	<b>7.91%</b>

CATEGORY	2021-22 APPROVED BUDGET	% OF TOTAL	2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET	% OF TOTAL	% CHANGE
Payroll	\$8,820,000	33.40%	\$9,300,524	32.63%	5.45%
Benefits	\$6,071,000	23.00%	\$6,243,491	21.90%	2.84%
BOCES	\$5,157,000	19.50%	\$6,002,561	21.06%	16.40%
Contractual	\$2,970,000	11.20%	\$3,249,000	11.40%	9.39%
Debt service	\$2,548,000	9.60%	\$2,905,638	10.19%	14.04%
Supplies	\$481,000	1.80%	\$435,500	1.53%	-9.46%
Equipment	\$160,000	0.60%	\$159,000	0.56%	-0.62%
Transfer	\$125,000	0.50%	\$125,000	0.44%	0.00%
Textbooks	\$82,000	0.30%	\$82,000	0.29%	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,414,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$28,502,714</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7.91%</b>



# HERKIMER

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

801 West German street  
Herkimer, NY 13350

Bulk Rate  
Non-Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit #37  
Herkimer, NY  
13350

## Board of Education

Brian Crandall, *President*  
Michele Gilbert, *Vice President*  
Diann Fischer  
Robert Mihevc  
Scott Petucci  
Michael Carney

## Interim Superintendent

Gary Tutty

*Produced in cooperation with  
the Capital Region BOCES  
Communications Service.*

## 2022 BUDGET NEWSLETTER

# #HerkPride



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# Voter Information

## Who can vote?

In order to vote, a person must be at least 18 years old, a United States citizen and a resident of the Herkimer Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the May 17 vote. Voter registration is not required.

## When and where is the vote?

The school budget vote will take place from noon - 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, in the Herkimer Jr./Sr. High School Library.

## Can I vote by absentee ballot?

To vote by absentee ballot, you must fill out an application. Call the district office at (315) 866-2230, ext. 1318 to obtain an application. If you want your absentee ballot mailed to you, your application must be received by 5 p.m. on May 10. If you plan to pick up your ballot, your application must be received by 5 p.m. on May 16. The ballot must be received by 5 p.m. on May 17.

## What exactly am I voting on?

Residents are voting on a proposed \$28,502,714 budget for the 2022-23 school year, which calls for a 7.91% spending increase and a **0.0% tax levy increase.**

## Residents will also:

- **ELECT THREE BOE MEMBERS**  
Three open seats are up for election on the Herkimer Board of Education. Each carry a three-year term. Incumbents Robert Mihevc and Brian Crandall are running along with Alex Verenich.
- **VOTE TO ESTABLISH A CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**  
Residents will vote on a proposition to establish a capital reserve fund in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.
- **VOTE ON LIBRARY BUDGET**  
School district residents will decide on the Frank J. Basloe Public Library's proposed \$346,906 annual budget. Voters will also consider two candidates for five-year terms on the Library Board of Trustees.

## How can I learn more?

A budget hearing will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 4, in the Herkimer Jr./Sr. High School Library. More budget details are available online at [herkimercsd.org](http://herkimercsd.org).

# VOTE

May 17, 2022 – Noon-8 p.m.  
Herkimer Jr./Sr. High School Library